



St Paul's Catholic Primary School

'Do Everything with love.'

History Statement 2024-2025

INTENT

Intent

At St Paul's Catholic Primary School, we believe that high-quality history lessons inspire children to want to discover more about the past, whilst thinking and acting as historians. Our intention is to provide a well-rounded knowledge and understanding of people, events and contexts from a range of historical periods, whilst improving our children's cultural capital. Through teaching history as a discrete subject and promoting cross-curricular links with other subjects, children will have opportunities to investigate and comprehend the past, understand the chronology of the time periods studied and build an overview of Britain's past as well as that of the wider world.

Children will be provided with opportunities to support their communication and knowledge as historians by using historical evidence and, where possible, artefacts to encourage a deep sense of curiosity about the past and how it can be interpreted in different ways.

At St Paul's Catholic Primary School we have developed our history curriculum with the intent that our children will:

- Be given opportunities to develop their own lines of enquiry through formulating and refining questions
- Develop the ability to think critically about history and effectively communicate their ideas using a range of tools
- Support and challenge their own views and those of their peers by using a range of historical sources as supporting evidence
- Respect historical evidence, differentiate between the different source types and understand why some are more historically valid than others
- Discover links and connections to the History of our wonderful city of Portsmouth across different time periods.
- Be able to retain and recall key historical information taught throughout their primary curriculum.

IMPLEMENTATION

The subject leader for history will monitor, evaluate and review the implementation of the subject throughout the school which is taught every other half term for the duration of 1 hour a week. The subject leader will work collaboratively with staff and pupils to ensure the teaching of history is to a high standard and that the curriculum is progressive throughout the whole school - including nursery.

Each half term, the subject leader will use the progression map to review the curriculum so that appropriate adaptations happen to ensure the curriculum at St Paul's Catholic Primary is the best it can be for our children. Staff are able to use the progression map to ensure skills develop from one year to the next. There will be regular monitoring and pupil interviews, particularly focussing on children's retention of historical knowledge taught.

At St. Paul's Catholic Primary, staff are dedicated to delivering high-quality history lessons. This commitment is evident in the strategies used to help children retain and build upon their knowledge over time. Each history lesson begins with a *Flashback 4*, an activity that revisits learning from previous lessons, units, year groups, and key stages, ensuring consistent reinforcement of sticky knowledge statements. The sticky knowledge statements, carefully selected from a progressive document provided by the subject leader, recap key concepts from previous years and lessons. Each unit features three key statements, including one specifically designed to support our SEND pupils, ensuring that history is accessible and achievable for all learners.

The curriculum will be assessed half-termly; teachers use this to identify children who have not yet achieved the sticky knowledge statement(s) and to address any additional needs they may have, while also celebrating the achievements of our SEND pupils. This process provides valuable insights, highlighting areas of learning that may require revisiting or adaptation and identifying children who should be targeted for additional support.

A free-of-charge history club, open to all pupils in key stage two, will run after school for one half term per academic year. This club invites all pupils who have an interest in history and a desire to find out about topics not covered by their school curriculum, such as looking at castles in depth, a range of British monarchs and significant individuals from history.

History will take the following structure:

- A blocked curriculum structure to ensure coverage and progression in historical skills. A history unit will be taught for 3 half terms per academic year.
- KS1 history will focus upon the world around them and progress into events that extend beyond living memory in order to build a firm foundation for KS2.
- In KS2, the history of Britain is set out in Chronological order to enable children to build upon knowledge of prior events in time.
- Trips will enhance the learning experience

IMPACT

By the end of their primary education at St Paul's Catholic Primary, our learners will have gained a rich body of historical knowledge and a wide range of transferable skills, which we hope will equip them with the skills and knowledge needed throughout their education and later life. Children will become increasingly critical in their thinking and will be able to make informed and balanced judgements based on the past. They will also have a further understanding of history on a local scale. Our children will develop enquiry skills to be able to answer questions that they have devised and curiosity to enable them to pursue further questions that may arise. Visits and other events will be used, where possible, to further enhance the learning experience.